



Tutti Ensembles

Q. What is a Tutti Ensemble?

A. 'Tutti' means together, and an EMS 'Tutti Ensemble' aims to bring instrumentalists from different schools together and provide them with high quality ensemble provision with excellent EMS teachers and a variety of performing opportunities. If your school already funds their own ensemble or if they have had funding through our 'Kick Start Ensemble' scheme then you can apply for 'Tutti Ensemble' funding.

Q. What is included in the funding?

A. The funding will cover the cost of an EMS Ensemble Leader (most probably an instrumental teacher already working in your school), who will run the ensemble for 30 weeks of the school's year - in line with their teaching weeks at the school. EMS also has an expansive music library that our teachers have access to, meaning the school doesn't need to worry about purchasing music!

Q. Why should there be ensembles in our schools?

A. Ensemble playing is a fantastic way to support and enhance the music provision in your school. Pupils improve their instrumental playing more effectively when playing an ensemble, as well as it is improving their playing confidence, sight reading and general musicianship skills. On top of these (and many more great benefits), playing in an ensemble is loads of fun!

Q. When will the ensemble take place?

A. Rehearsals must take place after school at a time suitable for pupils from neighbouring schools to make it in good time for the start of the rehearsal. There will be an average of 10 rehearsals per term - 30 per year - and weeks must be agreed in advance with the school via an EMS202 (Teacher Timetable).

Q. What is the school expected to provide?

A. The most important thing we need from schools is to support the running of the ensemble. We expect the school to be able to provide a suitable space for the ensemble rehearsals to take place in, music stands, access to a photocopier (for the EMS teacher), to help promote the ensemble and to be encouraging towards the pupils taking part. The school must provide a named contact for the EMS teacher to maintain good communication with throughout the duration of their deployment within the school. If there are members of the ensemble at your school who need supervising between the end of the school day and the start of the ensemble then the school can choose to provide this themselves or, if they require the EMS Ensemble Leader to supervise, they will be charged for this time.



Q. So what do EMS take charge of?

A. Ealing Music Service and the EMS Ensemble Leader will take charge of the administration side of the ensemble. Members must submit an application through our website and then receive a confirmation before their first rehearsal. The EMS Ensemble Leader will keep track of attendance and repeated unauthorised attendance will be flagged to the Ensemble Development Lead, who will get in touch with parents.

EMS will also advertise the ensemble on their website, in their newsletter and to neighbouring schools to encourage their pupils to sign up. In collaboration with your school, EMS will also organise 'open rehearsals' to invite potential members to take part.

'Ensemble Support Visits' are undertaken by the EMS Ensemble Development Lead, in which school ensembles are observed to ensure that high quality inclusive music making is taking place. This also gives the EMS Ensemble Leader an opportunity to seek support if and where needed. Follow up visits may also be requested.

Q. What if we need extra instruments in our ensemble that the school doesn't own?

A. We understand that not all schools will have access to a full Samba Kit or 30 djembes therefore, any equipment needs should be discussed with the Ensemble Development Lead and EMS can hire out equipment free of charge to school. Please keep in mind that if provision is cancelled the school will be charged for any equipment that they have belonging to EMS – for a cost breakdown of this please see our [Service Level Agreement](#).

Q. What happens if a rehearsal has to be cancelled?

A. If the school needs to cancel a rehearsal (eg. because of an INSET day), they must give 10 school days' notice (in line with our [Service Level Agreement](#)). If schools are unable to provide 10 school days' notice then they will be invoiced for the time and the teacher will be paid for the missed rehearsal. If the EMS Ensemble Leader has to cancel a rehearsal (eg. if they call in sick) then they must inform EMS and the school before 8:30am on the day of the rehearsal. EMS will then inform all members of the ensemble via email or text message.

Q. I'd like to start a Tutti Ensemble in my school. How do I get the ball rolling?

To discuss starting a Tutti Ensemble in your school, please contact Caroline Swan (Ensemble Development Lead) - SwanC@ealing.gov.uk

For the full Terms & Conditions of all Ealing Music Service provision – please refer to our [Service Level Agreement](#).